



## Landsexamen Graduates are awarded their diplomas at the E.P.I.

During this season of commencement exercises, a particular group was honored to receive their diplomas in a quiet gathering in the Epilicious restaurant of the E.P.I. Hospitality Management Unit. These graduates were working mothers, often middle aged, or others determined to get a degree that could not attend school for various reasons,

The Landsexamen Bureau, headed by Glenda Loefstok were proud to award thirty diplomas on Wednesday afternoon. Glenda recounted that 400 individuals took the exams in ten subjects, which are offered annually. This allows individuals to pursue a living and education simultaneously, but requires a great deal of work and self-motivation on their part. Diplomas were awarded to those passing six subjects, in three levels, M.A.V.O., (basic high school) H.A.V.O., (advanced) and V.W.O. (accelerated college preparatory level.) H.A.V.O and V.W.O. graduates can now go on to universities; M.A.V.O. graduates can now work for their H.A.V.O. degree.

Ms. Loefstok revealed that of the 45 that took exams for the V.W.O., only Yvette Richardson earned her diploma. 155 sat for the H.A.V.O. degree, and 9 succeeded. 215 took the tests for their M.A.V.O., and 20 acquired their diplomas. The combination of work, parenting and studying is demanding, and requires great discipline and determination. A number of individuals received partial certificates; passing tests in a few subjects, but not enough for a diploma. Some make this choice, as it is too much combined with work and parenting, and will attempt to complete the requirements for a diploma next year. Ms. Loefstok complimented the graduates for taking this step and making the effort to advance their education, opening the door for advancement in their careers. The Landsexamen Bureau honored them with a small party in the Epilicious restaurant hosted by author and teacher Desiree Correa.

It was a very proud moment for not only parents, but also the children of many of the graduates, a number of which plan to continue with their education. Congratulations to all those that successfully completed their studies and earned their diplomas!